SOUTH VIET NAM In Struggle

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Address: HT 1217 B-SVN
c/o DAZIMINA HANOI
19, Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi, DRVN
and all RSVN Embassies, Information Bureaux in foreign countries

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editorial

THE AUGUST REVOLUTION

denials and affirmations

TWENTY-SEVEN years ago, the Vietnamese people's August Revolution put an end to the rule of colonialism and of feudalism, its agent. New chapters have since been written in their history. The down-trodden Vietnamese nation recovered her "right to independence and freedom." Semi-feudal and colonial Viet Nam, segmented into three "ky," became an independent and reunified country with full sovereignty and territorial integrity. A republic was instituted throughout the country, from North to South.

THE significance of the event cannot be overstated. It marked the close of dark and doleful decades of servitude and heralded in a new era, that of the control of the people over their own fate.

The change was inspired by the "nothing is more precious than independence and freedom" motto. And over the period which has followed it up to now, never has the resolve to "make every sacrifice rather than accept subjection" and patriotism of the Vietnamese been exalted to such a level of intensity.

The purport of the August Revolution tears to shreds US contentions on the "constitutionality" and "legality" of the Saigon regime and throws a glaring light on the colour of the Thieu gang, as traitors to the country and henchmen of the foreigners, who have been using every indicible horror and brutality to honour their "commitments" to them. In trying to destroy the fruits of the August Revolution, independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity—the US imperialists have revealed themselves as the most brazen aggressors of all times. With the most atrocious war in mankind's history, they have been trying to wipe out the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, a social regime far superior to their own. With a multi-faceted aggression, they have transformed Viet Nam into a testing ground for their various warfares purposed to impose US neo-colonialism in the context of declining US imperialism and mounting revolution in the five continents.

A look back to that upheaval of Autumn 1945 brings home to one the great sense of the South Vietnamese people's present resistance. If then was reached the peak of nearly a century's fight against French colonial bondage, the patriotic war of today is a continuation of the same effort until its full fruition in a new situation, under new circumstances and against a new foe, the chieftain of present day imperialism, the international gendarme of our era, the fascist of modern times, the enemy number one of independence, freedom, peace, democracy and social progress, whose economic and military potential is unmatched in the capitalist world.

The history of the August Revolution and the principles it upheld trenchantly dispose of the Nixon charge of "North Viet Nam's aggression against South Viet Nam". The latter's struggle has deep historical roots and the absurdity of the accusation glaringly contrasts with its eminently legitimate character.

Its inevitable triumph too is left in no doubt. For to achieve it, the experience of the August insurrection has been made the most of in the most imaginative way. Never has the strength of national unity been so developed as in the current resistance whose certain success is also vouched for by our anti-US and national salvation line, a genuine, independent and sovereign product of Viet Nam's genius. In addition, international support for our cause has assumed unprecedented proportions. One of its most meaningful expressions has been found in the decision of the Conference of Non-Aligned Countries to admit into their midst our and our Indochinese brothers' representatives. Such gestures of sympathy are highly stimulating and will give a powerful impetus to our fight.

IN the rising tide of our people's and armed forces' actions which have been sweeping across our land since March, there are unmistakable indications of an irresistible revolutionary upsurge and of an unshakeable confidence in final victory. In the Quang Tri area, the most formidable deployment ever of US air force has been held in check and one Saigon paratroop division, one Marine division and infantry division No 1, its most battle-tested outfits have been badly battered. In the Mekong delta, many important places like My Tho, Ben Tre, Kien Tuong, Chuong Thien, etc., have been rocked by guerilla activities and popular uprisings. The turmoil has spread to the plains of Central Viet Nam from Binh Dinh to Quang Nam and Quang Ngai. The adverse "pacification" program is in deep waters.

In North Viet Nam, our fellow-countrymen once more have unflinchingly confronted a US air and naval war many times more furious than in Johnson's time, with practically every one turned a combatant on the communication, dyke and dam, and other fronts.

On the other side, "Vietnamization" is heading for its doom, as the Saigon troops have been making a poor showing in spite of a very high level of US air and naval covering, which has exceeded the limits fixed for a "Vietnamized" war and relapsed into an "Americanized" conflict. Nixon is placing high hopes on his aviation and navy for a military decision, justified by no precedent.

THE incumbent US President is faced with piling difficulties. The White House race is switching into high gear and time is running short for him. His alternative is either a negotiated settlement of the Viet Nam issue or continuation of war with the maintenance in power of placeman Nguyen Van Thieu. Mr Nixon has certainly not forgotten what befell his predecessor. But he likes playing with fire. While trumpeting the pull-out of the last US combat battalion, his Administration's kept-up search for a

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The flame of the August Revolution is blazing across South Viet Nam

Files on US-puppet crimes

CHILDREN AND PREGNANT WOMEN DEPORTED BY US-THIEU

GIs arrest even children in the suburbs of Da Nang

IN the course of its current campaign of terror and repression, the Nguyen Van Thieu administration has deported to Poulo Condor (Con Son) Island whole lots of students, pupils, religious believers and innocent civilians the majority of whom oldagers, women and children. Since April, the US-Thieu regime has arrested tens of thousands of "suspects." On May 7 alone, they transferred 1,012 people from Hue to Poulo Condor. Among 369 people removed from Thu Duc jail to Poulo Condor were children and pregnant women. A prison warder on the penitentiary island acknowledged that in a jail he saw only women, oldagers and about 50 children the oldest of them only 9; they came mostly from Hue. They did not know why they had been deported to Poulo Condor. The internees reported that they had been summoned by thugs in their village who told them to go and take refuge from war, they were later sent to Poulo Condor. A white-haired old lady said she had four sons in the Saigon army and did not understand why she had been sent to the Devil's Island. The "refugees" were not allowed to take with them any belongings. Two old women had only short pants on.

The US-Thieu rule is on its last legs. Its frenzied arrests and jailings of innocent civilians only testify to its isolation and weakness. As remarked by a Saigon Catholic priest, "they (the US-Thieu) may enlarge the Poulo Condor jails, they may fill their prisons and camps from Ben Hai River to the Ca Mau tip with patriots and honest people, they may even arrest the niece of Phan Chu Trinh *; but in so doing they will once expose themselves."

Public opinion in South Viet Nam cities condemns those crimes of the US-Thieu, demands that they immediately set free all detainees in Poulo Condor and other jails and holds them responsible for whatever may happen to the life of women, children and other people jailed by them in those places.

* *A SVN patriot of the early twentieth century*

in the shadow of the american embassy in Saigon

(continued)

2. — THE PENTAGON BY THE CAU BONG CANAL

WHEREAS the new US Embassy on Thong Nhut boulevard employs only a few hundred personnel, the buildings of the American military command in the southeastern part of Tan Son Nhut airfield hum day and night with the activity of over three thousand Americans and Vietnamese of all arms and services. They are the US Pacific Pentagon and serve as headquarters to Westmoreland, then to Abrams and Weyand. The din kicked up by jets and choppers taking off and landing day and night makes the chronic pandemonium reigning at MACV even worse.

Whenever tipsy Americans lurching along Tu Do boulevard clamber aboard blue-painted taxis late at night and bark out: "Macvee!" the driver knows that he is to drive down Cong Ly road, cross the Cau Bong canal and take his passengers to the US Pacific Pentagon.

In spite of its name, United States Military Advisory Command in Viet Nam (USMACV), everyone knows that it is the supreme headquarters of all military forces under American command in all battlefields in Viet Nam and Indochina. Once a colonel of the Operations Department of the MACV petitioned Defense Secretary Melvin Laird that officers in the Pentagon by the Potomac river should be sent here by turns, for "here we are waging war and living in a war atmosphere and are likely to reap useful experience for the US armed forces."

At their clubs here, American officers talk a great deal about their commander, a burly general of the US armoured corps, with a square face and a black cigar sticking out of a corner of his mouth, much less talkative and boastful than Westmoreland but certainly not less ambitious. After Westy's "search and destroy" strategy was shelved, Abrams put forward his own: to launch guerilla style small-unit attacks on the adversary's rear areas. Say MACV American officers: "He uses his forces very sparingly and counts every pound of rice seized from the enemy." Some staff officers make light of his talents and doubt his ability for strategic command, especially since the ill-fated Lam Son 719 operation in Laos. Once an American official told a Vietnamese friend: "Abrams can command a tank squadron, or a division, but not this big war."

This big war is besides not limited to South Viet Nam.

On the the ground floor of this Asian Pentagon, next to the General Situation room, where the war in South Viet Nam is being followed, are the Cambodian and Lao war rooms, and also the North Viet Nam war room under the supervision of an air force colonel of the 7th Air Force. So there are four big wars, which correspond to what the American press has been calling the "four big quagmires of Washington in Southeast Asia."

When one gets to the first floor and walks down the corridor from Room 1b to Room 18b, one will realize that there arent's just four wars for the Americans. In these rooms painted in light ochre and equipped with air-conditioners, rows of duralumin-framed chairs, and all kinds of maps with scales ranging from 1/2,000 to 1/1,000,000, a multitude of wars are being followed: the war by B-52 strategic bombers, the electronic war, the chemical war, the war on the "pacification" front, the intelligence war and the psychological war...

The left wing houses the No.1 officers' club, reserved for senior officers, from lieutenant-colonels up to generals. The bulk of members are colonels belonging to all arms and services: air force, infantry, navy, marine corps, armoured corps, engineers' corps, signal corps, etc.

The place is off limits to all Vietnamese, including President Thieu, Defense Minister Nguyen Van Vy and Chief-of-Staff Cao Van Vien. The only ones admitted here on special occasions are either girl-friends of American generals or Saigon strip-tease artists.

The conversations overhead in the club amidst the clouds of cigarette smoke and the fumes of whisky supply facts that are at odds with those mentioned in MACV communiqués. For instance the following bits could be recorded on a Saturday evening of February 1972: "Those s.o.b.'s (meaning the Saigon troops) at firebases Hotel and Bravo refused to go on patrol outside the camps." — "That general Lam of the First Army Corps doesn't give a damn about military plans. He only seeks to feather his nest in Da Nang." — "Modern weapons entrusted to those loafers who prefer gambling to going to war are wrecked in no time." — "The CIA is purblind and the war is going down the drain in face of an adversary who shows miraculous stamina and resilience before the terrifying firepower of the American air forces..."

In spite of all the nasty words uttered by the Americans concerning the Saigon army, the American troops can't be said to have outshone it. Whenever Abrams gets to the fourth floor and peers into dossiers kept by the Personnel Department, he would feel greatly disheartened. Heroin-addiction among American GIs has increased to a horrifying rate. Fragging is rampant, i.e. the killing by GIs, black and white, of officers they don't like by means of fragmention grenades. Hundreds of GIs have been disciplined for refusing to go on patrol. Thousands have been jailed for hold-up, theft, rape... There are also the dossiers of 248 American deserters whom the military police have failed so far to track down in spite of the cooperation of the Saigon city police. But some Saigonese know quite a few things about them. They have gone into hiding in slum quarters along the Ben Nghe canal, in teeming Cholon, and even on the northwest fringe of Tan Son Nhut airfield along what the GIs have been calling "Drunkards Alley." They live there under Vietnamese names take Vietnamese wives (up to three apiece) who bear them several children, and make a living through smuggling and hold-up, with attendant rape and murder. They are equipped with submachineguns and pistols and ally themselves with local toughies in setting up gangs bearing such names as "Skull" and "Zebra," specializing in assassination and abduction and threatening the lives and security of people in all eleven districts of the city. That is the only success so far of "Vietnamization" in Saigon.

While the Asian Pentagon hums with frantic activity, the Saigon Defence Department building on Gia Long boulevard looks deserted. Once, none other than Nguyen Van Vy, the Minister, admitted: "We have no hold on either troops, weapons or money. They (meaning the Americans) take charge of everything!"

According to a Cao Van Vien aide, each week, the Saigon "chief-of-staff" is invited to come over to MACV three times, for "exchange of views on the situation." It takes a five-minute drive on Vien's grey-painted jeep. Abrams would talk to him about the situation at the fronts and what should be done to "win victory." Relationships between the two are quite good. Vien gladly receives all criticisms, even rebukes, from his "ally" and is ready to act on all the latter's "suggestions." These he considers orders, to be transmitted without delay to the various corps and tactical regions. An Abrams aide once told a friend in the Saigon army: "Your chief-of-staff is the very kind of man we Americans have always wanted. A true soldier, with a high sense of discipline and certainly not prone to arguing." In the French colonial days, Vien was a sergeant in the "native" troops and was later promoted to second lieutenant. He was trained to obey right from his youth. Indeed, he has had no difficulty at all switching from the familiar "Oui, Monsieur" of French days to the present "Yes, sir" or "Okay." Once in a meeting with Abrams, he showed himself to be absolutely in the dark concerning the whereabouts of two regiments of the Saigon Fisrt Infantry Division in the Tri-Thien area. But Abrams displays great leniency on such occasions. He knows that the Saigon four-star general is primarily concerned with the promotion of Saigon officers, which he and his wife look opon as a lucrative business. Abrams doesn't certainly mind. An obedient blockhead at the top of the Saigon army, that's what he wants above everything else.

(To be continued)

THANH NAM

SWEEP AWAY ALIEN CULTURE BUILD NATIONAL CULTURE

IN implementation of the NFL Political Program and the program of action of the PRG on the radical uprooting of the US-Saigon enslaving and rotten culture and the building and development of a new culture and education, the revolutionary power in liberated areas has seen to the protection and normal functioning of schools, hospitals, cultural, educational and medical establishments, stadia, theatres, cinemas and other public utility services. Their personnel has been asked to continue their work and assigned the task of preserving the institutions.

US aggression against South Viet Nam has assumed the form of an all-out war. The US-Saigon neo-colonialist regime has been resorting to up-to-date means and weapons, including toxic chemicals, against the people, animals, crops and vegetation, while suppressing and poisoning culture, education and other aspects of moral life in areas under its control. Its culture and education, in both form and content, is anti-national, anti-scientific and anti-popular. Whole series of policies and measures have been elaborated to pervert the South Vietnamese people's minds both subtly and crudely. Philosophies ranging from personalism under Ngo Dinh Diem and Ngo Dinh Nhu, to existentialism promoted by the butcher Nguyen Van Thieu — all products of an alien bourgeois, decadent thinking — have been given prominence. Endeavours have been exerted to revive confucianism. Moral life in enemy-controlled areas has been alarmingly debased: among teen-agers and youths a psychology of "fast living" has been generated, along with a mentality which places money above anything else, including conscience, dignity, honour and ideal. A decadent, base, pervert, gangster-like way of life — the so-called American way of life — has been prevailing. Movie-houses, recreation centres have been used by psywar experts to stimulate animal, bellicose and blood-thirsty instincts, and hooliganism. Pornographic and obscurantist literature has become an instrument to deprave youths of both sexes and deprive them of all nationalistic sentiment.

"Songs drown out bomb explosions!" With this slogan in action, members of the Liberation Army's Song and Dance Ensemble give performances to people in newly liberated areas

The aim of the US-Saigon policy concerning culture and education is to stamp out or at least to emasculate to a large extent the South Vietnamese people's patriotism, to inculcate in them admiration and fear of the USA, a cult of the dollar — all this with a view to an easier recruitment into the client army and imposition of US neo-colonialist yoke on the South Vietnamese. Such a policy has been seriously impairing our people's human dignity. Many families in US-Saigon held areas have been wrecked by the depravation of their sons and daughters. Prostitution and ravishments by American troops and Saigon thugs have been ruining many people's happiness. All moral values of their nation have been ruthlessly suppressed, and because of this, right from the start of the US aggression, all South Vietnamese with any national sentiment left, has stood up and resolutely opposed the aggressors and their lackeys in defence of their own lives while defending the younger generation and the four-millenary old culture of the Vietnamese nation.

Although the tough fight against aggression continues unabated, the revolutionary power in newly-liberated areas has made strenuous efforts to deal with the aftermaths of US-Thieu rule. At the same time, steps have been taken to build a national culture and education, to develop science and technique, first and foremost to raise the people's cultural level through active liquidation of illiteracy, expansion of complementary education and restoration and multiplication of schools. Sanitary work, disease prevention have been stepped up parallel to the treatment of endemics and diseases left by the US aggressors and their native henchmen.

In spite of US-Saigon attempts to get at the South Vietnamese people's life with bombing, strafing, toxic spraying... thousands of new general education classes from the 1st grade upwards have been opened since 1971 by the educational service in liberated areas. Elementary and secondary schools bearing the names of patriots and revolutionaries like Hoang Le Kha, Nguyen Van Troi, Ly Tu Trong, Le Van Tam... have duly contributed to the successful training of future generations. In many areas, the local administrative authorities have organized complementary education classes for workers, peasants, militants and Liberation fighters. The people have been given assistance by the administration to set up their own literacy classes. Prophylactic and therapeutic hygiene has been vigorously impelled. Villages and districts where the people have become the masters, are all provided with sanitarians, and two-thirds of liberated villages can boast their own medical stations and maternity homes. A judiciously combined use of Eastern and Western medicines, of modern and traditional therapies has been successfully experimented. A considerable number of literary creations permeated with revolutionary realism and possessed of a high aesthetic value, have been widely disseminated. The young liberation cinema has produced 20 films, some of them highly praised by the people in both North and South Viet Nam and even in foreign countries where they have earned international prizes.

Dedicated to the raising of the people's moral life, the revolutionary power in newly-liberated areas is pushing up its activities in culture, education and health. In defiance of US killing and devastation, the new life there, under the new order daily evinces its superiority, which strengthens the people's confidence and resolve to tide over all difficulties and fight on for independence and freedom, and a resplendent national and democratic culture.

TAM DUONG

WHEN BUDDHA IS FULL OF WRATH

IN the last few months in South Viet Nam the US-Saigon rule has been carrying out a campaign of terror and has arrested tens of thousands of patriots with a view to quelling popular uprisings. The drive has been going on in Saigon, Hue, Da Nang, Can Tho, My Tho, Loag An, etc. The number of people apprehended between early April and May 1972 is put at 25,000 to 63,000. In particular in Hue and Tra Vinh, most of the detainees were Buddhist monks, nuns and followers.

Reporting on this event, the *Baltimore Sun* wrote in its June 10, 1972 issue under the headline "Viet Nam arrests increase" that the Saigon government had reckoned that a wave of popular uprisings like in early 1968 might break out.

But the US-Saigon regime is running its head against a wall. On May 17, 1972, Saigon policemen broke into pagodas inside and on the outskirts of Tra Vinh township and nabed seven monks. Immediately 1,000 monks and other people of Vietnamese and Khmer nationalities marched on the residence of the Tra Vinh governor to demand the release of the detained priests. The quislings provincial head had to apologize and comply with the request.

Following up their success, on May 18, 1972, nearly 2,000 monks and other people of Vietnamese and Khmer nationalities in Tra Vinh again called on the governor to voice their opposition to forced enrolment of youths and monks and to the 9 fascist measures by Thieu, they also denounced US-Thieu air destruction of Luc Hoa Pagoda (Cau Ngang district) and killing of monks and nuns. The action lasted until May 19, 1972 when the provincial governor had to agree to the payment of compensations for damage. Meanwhile in many other urban centres and villages of Tra Vinh the people held meetings against Thieu's nine security precautions and to send off their sons to the free zone to take part in the anti-US patriotic struggle.

On May 27, 1972, thousands of Buddhists in Saigon - Gia-Dinh gathered in An Quang Pagoda and in the presence of the US deputy ambassador, urged an end to the US aggression and restoration of peace. On the same time in many pagodas in Saigon-Gia Dinh, Buddha's birthday was commemorated under the "End US aggression" slogan. Then on June 17, 1962, the Buddhist Council of An Quang pagoda met in Saigon to condemn the US-Thieu arrest of 1,318 priests in Hue, including those of the two main pagodas in that city, and the deportation of 862 of them to Poulo Condor (Con Son) Island.

To persecute Buddhist priests and believers right on Lord Buddha's very birthday, what a profanity! But will the US-Saigon regime be able to prevent the masses from rising up now that "Vietnamization" is faced with utter failure? With their traditional undauntedness and the "no fear" spirit of Buddhism, the South Vietnamese Buddhists and people as the Saigon paper *Dan Chu Moi* (New Democracy) has put it in its January 31 issue, "will not sit idly but will engage in the fight at this decisive moment."

US-SAIGON "PACIFICATION" PROGRAM NODDING TO ITS DOOM

THE wave of offensives and uprisings started in South Viet Nam 4 months ago has proved increasingly damaging to the US-Saigon "pacification" program.

Popular uprisings not only have been stepped up in the provinces on the central coast, but also have spread to the Mekong Delta, Eastern Nam Bo and South Central Trung Bo, areas regarded by the enemy as completely "pacified" and "100 per cent secure."

Quang Tri-Thua Thien. — In the 5 days in late March and early April, along with the devastating onsets of the PLAF main-force units on well-fortified adverse defence system along Highway 9, 100,000 people of Gio Linh, Cam Lo and Mai Loc districts and in many detention centres staged simultaneous insurrections and seized control. Then between April 27 and May 1, with the total destruction of the US-Saigon strongest defence complex in Dong Ha town and Quang Tri provincial capital, people of all walks of life rose up and liberated the entire province.

Central Trung Bo (Central Viet Nam). — The armed forces and people of Binh Dinh province set a bright example for all South Viet Nam and took the lead in the counter-pacification campaign. Within a month, alongside successful annihilation battles in De Duc and Bong Son, the PLAF in the province either destroyed or caused the complete collapse of all the structures of the Saigon army and administration in the 3 Northern districts and many villages in the Southern districts. The whole repressive apparatus painstakingly built-up by the enemy for years, crumbled. All the enemy regional forces disintegrated.

In Quang Ngai, Phuoc Tuy, Gia Dinh, Tay Ninh, Rach Gia, Ca Mau, My Tho, Ben Tre, Kien Phong, Kien Tuong and other provinces, people of many localities continuously fought off enemy "pacification" operations, wiping out whole companies and platoons of enemy troops and foiling series of enemy "sweeps," big and small, with heavy adverse losses in manpower and war means and a shattered "pacification" dream.

Not limiting themselves to knocking out enemy troops involved in support-pacification actions, the people and PLAF in the central coastal plain provinces, in My Tho, Rach Gia, Tra Vinh and Long An encircled and exerted constant pressure on enemy outposts, blotted out, or forced the surrender of, dozens of them. Those outposts had been used as staging areas and hideouts for cruel "pacifiers" in each district, in each drive of terror raids.

The South Vietnamese armed forces and people's counter-pacification has been effective in many respects:

— Destruction or disbandment of 18 battalions, 35 multi-company units, 350 companies and 1,450 platoons belonging to the US-Saigon territorial forces.

— Disintegrating of grassroots security units and civil-guards, quisling administration structures and "pacification" cadres and coercive forces which made it possible for the masses to rise up and seize power. Thus the objective of primary importance in the battle against "pacification" has been achieved.

— Obliteration of 22 military sectors and subsectors and district towns, and levelling or forced evacuation of 1,500 outposts. This success of the South Viet Nam armed forces and people has denied the support-pacification forces their strongholds and staging areas, and facilitated further destruction of enemy man-power.

— Liberation of vast areas adjacent to the former liberated zone and consisting of dozens of districts and hundreds of villages, not including a completely liberated province (Quang Tri) and another province almost completely liberated (Kontum). This great achievement is of strategic importance in the sense that it helps further strengthen the position of the South Viet Nam armed forces and people and increase their potential and provided them with new solid footholds from which to inflict total failure on US-Saigon "pacification."

The gains of the past 4 months clearly testify to the South Vietnamese people's and armed forces' strong and offensive posture. At the same time, they amply demonstrate that the bankruptcy of the US-Saigon pacification program is irremediable. Top American "pacification" advisers have admitted."

(*Newsweek*, June 19, 1972).

ON the basis of the powerful development of the people's war which has frustrated and repelled step by step the US-Saigon pacification efforts, the South Vietnamese armed forces and people are well in a position to defeat many enemy operations on the liberated zone. Despite their heavy setbacks and the liquidation of their coercive forces in many areas, yet with the desperate stubbornness of those at the end of their tether, the US and the Saigon regime are making frantic attempts to beef up their forces through the merger of para-military forces into the regular army and through military draft and to retake the lost territories. They have even fielded troops in areas North of the My Chanh river (Quang Tri) and Hoai Nhon (Binh Dinh), and in savage sweeps in the U Minh area, the Duong Van Duong Canal, Phu My, An Nhon, Duc Pho, and the vicinity of Dong Xoai and Dat Do. But all these adventures have come to a flop. The armed forces and people in the liberated areas have vigorously hit back. In a 20-day period, in Quang Tri and Western Thua Thien, 9,500 enemy troops were put out of action. The patriots in Binh Long, Kontum and Binh Dinh have held their ground and resisted stubbornly, frustrating the enemy's scheme to pacify and relocate the population.

As a result, a battle array very favourable to the patriots across South Viet Nam has taken shape. Guerilla warfare has been given a strong impetus in all the 3 strategic areas. At present, many villages and hamlets are stepping up the organization and build-up of their combat forces. Fighting villages have increased in number. Guerilla teams have been formed or strengthened, with a strong command and high tactical and technical skills, capable of successfully facing the enemy in all circumstances.

The liberated zone has been enlarged into a vast rear area with a large population and substantial resources, an inexhaustible source of replenishment for our people's anti-US war of resistance.

Firm in their winning and upgrading position, the South Vietnamese armed forces and people will follow up their successes with new attacks on the enemy and political actions and persuasion work among enemy troops, destroy the largest possible amount of enemy man-power and war materials, bring the US-Saigon "pacification" program to total failure and make still greater advances.

DIEN AN

Enemy base swept out and freedom restored to the village

Revolutionary administration officials explain the 10-point policy of the PRG towards the newly-liberated areas

Dakto after liberation

OUR troops marched into the district town of Dakto a sunny morning. A shield for Kontum to the west and north west, this strongly fortified base had been smashed by our artillery and infantry. Fierce fighting still raged here yesterday. Now not a single enemy soldier remained in an extended region from Vo Dinh up north to Tau Canh down south.

On the way to the administrative quarter we crossed Dac Chu, Dac De and other liberated hamlets.

Fences around population concentration zones had been levelled. We walked in between cheering crowds streaming toward the church area where they would be briefed by liberation cadres before getting back to their villages. Men, women and children carried their belongings on their backs or bamboo poles.

Before liberation few dared to venture into this administrative quarter. One would have run the risk of being suspected if not of being arrested, jailed then tortured or deported. At present to see with his or her own eyes this lair of foreigners' wicked valets is everyone's wish.

The information center had been razed too. Broken wireless antennas and brick and files and blitzed military vehicles lay helter-skelter. The whole network of blockhouses and underground shelters had been literally ploughed. Only one shelter — or rather three-fourths of it — still remained: a liberation soldier told me it was that of Lo Van Bao, a lieutenant colonel, the district chief of Dakto. Among the heap of paper, pornographic photos and pictures, and half-consumed food and drinks, we could see his colonel's cap.

The Chairman of the People's Liberation Committee of Dakto district was at work with his colleagues. They were devising ways and means to help those who had been herded here to regain their hamlets.

From the administrative quarter we reached the church area, past the market place and the hospital. 5,000 people assembled here, people of different nationalities and religions, civilians and armymen brought together by the liberation of their homeland. Representatives of the PLC expounded the policy of the Provisional Revolutionary Government toward newly-liberated areas.

Most of the gatherers went back to their former homes, robust youths in the van holding high slogans and PRG flag. Among the crowd there were young men who were a few days before "civil guards" of the local puppet administration. Miss Ha, a provincial cadre, told me with emotion that it was in vain that, before fleeing several hours ago, the enemy had forced the population by every means to follow him.

It became warmer and warmer toward noon. Aeroplanes rumbled overhead. But people went on with their own business, elated to be freed from the adversary's cruel grip.

Flags of the Provisional Revolutionary Government fluttered at every nook and corner. People's Revolutionary Committees emerged everywhere in Dakto district. A new life had set in.

Liberation soldiers, who gazed at the spectacle with pride, felt that they had gained new strength for the fights ahead. And already many moved further south with their tanks and artillery.

HUU QUA

THE AUGUST REVOLUTION denials and affirmations

(*Continued from page 1*)

negotiated solution of the war and prediction of an end to it for next autumn, he is actually sticking to his May 8 position, continuing to impose the Thieu regime on the South Viet Nam people, resorting to most brutal war methods to create a position of strength, refusing to end the aggression war, thus worsening the stalemate of the Paris talks. He is doing his utmost to whip up a "the war is winding down" psychology and strike off Viet Nam from the list of electorol issues. He is hoping to tide over the obstacles created by the war and defeat his opponent by deception. Once returned for another term, he is likely to pursue his ill-fated aggression war.

He has warned the Vietnamese people of direr consequences from their refusal to accept his May 8 offer, in case he is re-elected. Clearly enough, he not only does not know his opponent, nor himself. As an adversary of US imperialism for the last quarter century we have enough strength and spirit to resist the US aggressors not only for four more years but for many times four years, if need be. Mr Nixon right now is not unaware of the troubles in store for him, as a presidential candidate, because of his obdurate, aggressive and warlike stand. With his "cessation of US bombing in Indochina", "complete withdrawal of US troops within 90 days" and "immediate suspension of all military aid to the Thieu regime" position, Mc Govern has proved a redoubtable competitor whose main strength lies in the progressive tendency of the American masses disgusted by the war and impatient for a change for the better in their living conditions. Let Mr Nixon be not cocksure of his chances.

THE South Vietnamese people have peace, justice, independence and freedom equally at heart. As long as US aggression continues, they will carry on their battle, until their sacred national rights are achieved all over their beloved land.

SOUTH VIET NAM

Long Binh base, one of the enemy's major "stomachs" pierced by Liberation fighters

Spreading holocaust at Lai Khe base attacked by Liberation forces

Mekong Delta

57,000 enemy put out of action in 100 days

DURING the 100 days of fighting from April 7 to July 17, the People's Liberation Armed Forces in the Mekong Delta put out of action close to 57,000 enemy troops, overran or forced the surrender or evacuation of 600 posts and positions, and liberated nearly 1,100 more villages and hamlets.

In terms of units, the PLAF wiped out or heavily decimated 46 battalions and multi-company units of Saigon main-force troops and "civil guards," more than 600 companies and platoons of "civil guards" and "popular defence," and overran or caused heavy losses to 5 military sub-sectors and special sectors, and 12 regimental or battalion-sized basecamps.

In addition, the PLAF shot down or destroyed on the ground 130 aircraft, gutted 150 military vehicles and 110 cannon, sank or set ablaze 145 vessels and combat-launches, and seized nearly 6,000 weapons and 320 radios. One million more people in the Mekong Delta have regained their right to be master of their land.

Since early April 1972, the liberation forces and people in the Mekong Delta have stepped up attacks against the enemy's military forces. During one hundred days of the powerful offensive and uprising, they hit hard at the 7th, 9th and 21st divisions, the core force of the US-puppets in the area. In order to save the Saigon troops and the "pacification" plan, the US brought in hundreds of aircraft including strategic B.52's and many warships to join the Saigon army in bombing, shelling and spraying toxic chemicals on populated areas. But nothing could help the US-puppets redress the situation.

The liberation forces and people in the Mekong Delta attacked and breached the enemy's defence line in the border area from Ha Tien province to Kien Tuong province, broke their "protective belt" in the U Minh jungle area stretching over more than 100kms and at the same time, smashed their multi-ring defence line in the Plain of Reeds.

At Ba Thay and Bien Nhi in the southernmost province of Ca Mau, the liberation forces disposed of or badly mauled the 32nd and 33rd regiments of the 21st division. Meanwhile, they repeatedly attacked the 7th and 9th divisions, wiping out or inflicting heavy losses on 8 battalions in Ben Tre, Rach Gia, and Can Tho provinces. The liberation forces also violently intercepted the 12th regiment of the Saigon 7th division engaged in relief missions, operations, causing heavy losses to 2 battalions, and foiling the clearing operation of this division.

Only within the first 20 days of the offensive, the liberation forces and people in the Mekong Delta put out of action more than 15,000 enemy troops. They followed up with resounding exploits in Kien Tuong, Kien Phong, My Tho and Rach Gia which resulted in dozens of Saigon main-force battalions and "civil guard" battalions and multi-company units written off or badly mauled.

Along with military attacks, people living on both sides of Highway 4 and in the vicinity of provincial capitals and towns, rose up and destroyed hundreds of "strategic hamlets" and concentration camps. Many vast areas linking hamlets, villages, districts and provinces together have been liberated. The patriots also succeeded in persuading nearly 10,000 Saigon puppet soldiers to cross over to the revolution.

The heroic port city of HAIPHONG

HAIPHONG, a city that has sworn brotherhood with staunch Da Nang, and a city known for its "loyalty, courage and resolve," has been against overwhelming odds holding its ground, persisting in and stepping up the Resistance, maintaining and developing economy and culture, and seeing to the normal functioning of its people's everyday life.

In the 4 years' confronting with Johnson's air and naval war, the city's working people, with well justified pride, wrote down glowing pages in its history : they succeeded in protecting and maintaining the routine activity of their beloved port city. Today they have also taken the lead and accomplished remarkable exploits in the fight against the most brutal war of destruction and naval blockade carried by the war maniac Nixon. Their courage is symbolical of the revolutionary will and invincible strength of the Vietnamese people in their anti-US Resistance for national salvation.

Over the past 100-odd days, the US imperialists have deployed a big air and naval armada and modern weaponry in round-the-clock attacks on the city and its surroundings, perpetrating innumerable crimes against the local people. The River Cam, the River Tam Bac, Thuong Ly and Ha Ly districts, Sat and Du Hang markets, Hong Bang, Ngo Quyen, Le Chan, Phu Loc and other city quarters, all bear the traces of Nixon's dastardly onsets.

If Britain's Coventry, bombed flat by the Hitlerite fascists, was formerly considered a ghastly instance of brutality and horror, Viet Nam's Haiphong nowadays certainly represents many Coventrys. The British martyr town is far outstripped by Haiphong in terms of the bomb tonnage used per acre, and was never hit by jets and strategic bombers, or blockaded by most sophisticated mines.

Haiphong is the world's first populous port city to come under B-52 saturation bombing. It has become the symbol of the utter savagery proper to Nixon, the most rabid fascist in the second half of this century. It forcefully exposes to the whole world the most fiendish methods of mass-killing and war of extermination of the White House and Pentagon fire-eaters.

Overlooking the Eastern Sea, Haiphong stands face-to-face with the US 7th Fleet. Its armed forces and people have accepted Nixon's challenge with unbelievable bravery. In only 4 months, from April 1 to July 31, they brought down nearly 30 US jets, including a B-52 stratofortress, and damaged many 7th Fleet warships.

From the huge bomb tonnage dumped by the US aggressors and the narrow area of the city hemmed on all sides by rivers, one can form a full idea of the fortitude and stamina of the Haiphong people who cling to their city and keep up their effort to assist the frontline, kindred South Viet Nam. The whole of this major city has placed everything on a war footing. In the areas pock-marked by bomb and shell craters or lying close to enemy mines, life is still throbbing on and each citizen has become a resolute combatant. This city's staying power and its working population's revolutionary militancy must be seen to be believed.

Anti-aircraft batteries manned by factory self-defence units have been planted everywhere. Vigilant and fully prepared at all times, men and women alike, they mount guard over their factories and their city. Each fresh assault by the aggressors only stimulates hundreds and thousands of young men and women to join the army and come forward for fighting assignments at the front.

The US aggressors are planning more heinous crimes. But with its abundant experience, Haiphong is ready to meet force with due force. It will always live up to its fame as a "heroic port city."

For all their atrocities and international outlawry the US aggressors, far from being able to snatch victory out of defeat, will only further harden the will of the entire Vietnamese people to inflict on total failure on them.

Turning their thought towards Haiphong with pride and confidence, the South Vietnamese people are determined to honour their pledge : "For each US strike at the North, the South Vietnamese armed forces and people will hit 5 or 10 more powerful blows" so as to liberate the South, make the North secure and eventually achieve peaceful national reunification."

Coast patrol

Here and there...

A Casualty

They have falled upon a new victim : Nguyen Thai Binh.

The murder of this young student is still shocking public opinion and one has not unravelled all the skein of dark dastardliness of the deed.

What will remain for long a wonder for mankind is certainly not the brutality of Nguyen Thai Binh 's foes but his outspokenness in asking Mr Nixon himself whether he would like to be cut into two like Viet Nam which he wanted to halve. Surely, the US President would not.

Binh also told him that, facing US up-to-date weapons, the "unique bomb" he, the "Pacifist", (that is what his name means in Vietnamese), had at his disposal was only his "man's heart, which might be exploded for the sake of love, loyalty and hope."

Thereupon, he deliberately left the USA, stating unequivocally that, "conscious of his glory and duty as an intellectual of the heroic Vietnamese people" he was going to join "the fighters for the freedom of Viet Nam to be with them in life and death."

The pill was a little too bitter for Nixon and Thieu. What else could they do but having him made away with ? It was only a matter of course and it was just like them.

And a "Rebel"

Hardly had they had time for exultation, when an annoying event occurred. Jane Fonda visited Viet Nam. The great actress of the US and the Western world, whom the Nixon administration regards as a major "rebel" for her anti-war activity made it a point to see for herself all that the US President wishes no one were ever shown : hospitals, schools, churches, pagodas, towns, villages, dykes, dams, hydraulic works, etc., blasted by US bombs. And worse still, she refused to keep her mouth shut, the dreadful woman !

To boot, at a press conference, in reply to a question concerning "some US warlike elements" wanting to prosecute her on charge of "high treason," she completely reversed the roles, by retorting : "I would like to publicly accuse Richard Nixon of betraying everything that is human and just in the world today. I would like to accuse him of being a new Hitler whose crimes have only begun to be discovered. He is betraying everything that the USA stands for."

Well, that was rather unexpected, wasn't it ?

US First Lady versus Jane Fonda

Good God ! That impossible woman (Jane Fonda) seems to have taken to that game which apparently threats and pressure of all kinds only encourage. At press conference after press conference in Hanoi, Paris, New York, Los Angeles (for she had the cheek to return to the States), wherever she goes, even under cops' escort, she never hesitates to tell home truths to Nixon. She has even renounced acting to devote herself to an anti-Nixon campaign during the presidential electioneering. She goes to the length of showing a footage shot on the spot to everyone to expose his lies about US air bombing in North Viet Nam. A real slap in his face.

Mr President must be very angry indeed. But Tricky Dick never runs short of tricks. So on August 8, the First Lady, good old girl Pat, who has more often than not shared with him rotten eggs and tomatoes, also gave a press conference in the Gold Drawing Room, mind you. Why not ? What does it matter if no First Lady before her had done such a thing ?

A super star's conference is worth a First Lady's conference. And such a virulent indictment of that Fonda gal ! She should have told her North Vietnamese chums to stop their aggression against South Viet Nam, shouldn't she ?

The only trouble was that prim Pat's fulmination didn't sound like hers but rather like echoes of her husband's.

Disappointment

Not later than the next day, a bevy of beauty queens was flown to South Viet Nam and Thailand on a tour of US bases there. A tour for a tour, sweets versus the sweet, wasn't it clever of Dick ? All is grit that comes to his mill. What can be more persuasive than the voices of such luscious sirens ?

And what did one of the sorceresses say in Saigon ? That her visit was a far cry from Jane's to North Viet Nam. Of course, it was. The same way as a good quarrel is a far cry from a bad one, as justice from injustice. But it looked as if something was nagging at her loving heart, so she went on to say that while not supporting the best actress of the year of grace 1971, she would not disprove of her (*AFP*, August 9).

Ah ! Fickleness, thy name is woman !

HUONG NAM

JANE FONDA, film star and peace fighter

"I'll expose Nixon's lies," says Jane Fonda when viewing debris at Truong Dinh residential quarter (Hanoi) demolished by US bombs

"MY life has changed over the past few years because of my recognizing the hypocrisy and criminality of a succession of US Governments particularly with regard to Viet Nam. Along with tens of thousands of other Americans of all ages and classes, this new consciousness was awakened by the Vietnamese people. Your struggle, courage, culture has forced us to recognize certain truths about our own country and what will be necessary to change it. I come to Viet Nam not as a 'personality' but as a comrade. I want to learn."

Those were the heartfelt words said by Jane Fonda when she set foot in embattled Viet Nam. They were echoes of a deep upheaval in her soul, of her present and future feelings.

On the afternoon of July 8, 1972, she arrived in Hanoi on a "learning" tour, as she put in. I had known her by fame for years through US and Saigon films and newspapers. Recently, I saw in a Saigon paper stills from her ,Oscar prize-winning picture with this caption under one of them: "Jane Fonda, an actress of the fast set." Today in North Viet Nam, I had the privilege of meeting her in the flesh. She looked as neat and sprightly as other US women I had met. The film star had given the wall to the American woman, spontaneous, upright and effectionate. What is most lovable about her is her giving up the luxurious life of a successful actress, her disowning the traditional education of the US society she said she had been "favoured" with to join the battle for justice, at the dictates of America's conscience. The "actress of the fast set" had proved to be a righteous woman living and acting in keeping with human ethics, with the most elevated ideal of man, a declared enemy of Nixon and stern critic of the corrupt Thieu gang of hirelings.

During her nearly two weeks' stay in Viet Nam, she witnessed stirring scenes, saw troubling sights: Nam Sach dyke (Hai Hung) bombed by US planes, US-raided Bach Mai hospital, schools, population centres rated by the Nixon Administration as "military targets." She expressed her unqualified conviction that Nixon was aware of the real nature of what he regarded as "military targets" and that in hitting at dykes he wanted to get at the very source of life of the Vietnamese.

She visited an AAC site of the capital. She was greatly surprised and impressed by the fact that the gunners while always combat prepared had time to tend their lush vegetable plots, pigsties and poultry coops. They also composed and performed songs. They sang in chorus a song in her honour: "We, gunner, defend Ba Dinh Square" of their own composition. She voiced great admiration for their courage, optimism and love for peace. She praised their sense of purpose as combatants and their taste for music as young men. She obliged them with "Rise Up and March On" in Vietnamese, a song she had learned from Saigon youths and students who sing it in anti-US-Thieu demonstrations. "I must apologize for my Vietnamese accent," she said. "After the war I hope I can come back to learn Vietnamese."

"May you shoot down many more US planes. Viet Nam will win!", she exclaimed when taking leave. Her American voice spoke out our Vietnamese wish and conviction.

At the Special Representation of the South Viet Nam Republic, she was in tears when she embraced Comrade Minh whose body was still covered with scars from Thieu's brutalities. The latter girl, a survivor of Saigon medieval torture, had just come from the South. Her tale of horror caused Jane Fonda to cry out: "The fiends! The Gestapo of our time!"

Comrade Minh got into a fit during her account of the cruelties she had been submitted to. She screamed and cursed her torturers for nearly half an hour, before she came to. The American film star burst into sobs. Because, as she confided, in all her life as an actress versed in the art of moving the heart of man, she had never been so genuinely moved as that day, at the sight of a fellow-woman, casualty of a crime against man, which she promised to tell her people about and to fight against with all her strength.

For her, Viet Nam's fight is of an incredible convincingness because it defends human dignity and love, it has upset all the orthodox values of the American society and revived the atrocious history of the white man of the past. She reminisced on the path she had travelled before she reached the Viet Nam truth. She had been regarded as "mad" but now the "mad" woman was listening to the voice of America's conscience. She was born and brought up in a family of renowned artistes. She had been raised to the status of a super star. She had received a "privileged" education. She had been lulled into sleep by the dream of "the US, bulwark of freedom and democracy," of the "great US society." As "wherever the US went, it brought with it aid and assistance," US crimes and aggression in Viet Nam could only be figments of the imagination. She had lived, full of pride in her country in those years and months of concealment and deceit. Her admiring eyes had never looked beyond the Statue of Liberty, while on the other shore of the Pacific, crimes of the darkest dye were committed by her country without her knowing them.

Those were bitter memories of a past mistake. But she had learned from it. In 1965, 1966 and 1967, when Johnson was committing en masse US troops to South Viet Nam and furiously struck at North Viet Nam, Jane was residing in Paris. Amidst a wave of universal outcries, many people and papers interviewed her. But she dismissed the charges against the US as mere slander. She sought every excuse to justify her country (naturally most of her specious arguments, she said, had been supplied by US psywar experts and the CIA). But the hard facts could not be for long hidden and were revealed to her in their full lurid glare. True, Viet Nam had awakened her, incited her to "rise up and march on" and roused her to action. Today standing on the soil of a land engaged in a battle for independence and freedom, brutalized by a barbarous superpower who shows no regard for its old civilization and lofty love for man. She had seen in Viet Nam virtues worthy of man. She had denounced Nixon as a Hitler of our times, his war as a war of extermination, which reacted an infamous episode of the US history, that of the drive against Indians and Mexicans.

The US is in the throes of great tragedies. Freedom, justice, democracy are upset. Deceit, fraud and fascism have superceded justice. Bombs are dropped on the heads of women and children, on dykes which protect man's life, on hospitals, schools, economic structures... in the name of peace. No wonder that such atrocities have shocked many artistes with a great heart like Jane Fonda. No wonder that she has raised her voice, as a witness, against Nixon and for the Vietnamese whose fight is similar to the American Revolution. With us and with world opinion, she agrees that the Viet Nam war is a real US drama.

All through her visit to Viet Nam, Jane behaved like a real combatant, sharing the Vietnamese people's hardships, living their suspense-laden life, amidst the rumble of US bombs and the roar of US jets. She went to freshly bombed sites, met with the press, interviewed bombing victims, talked to captured American pilots, exposed US crimes and launched an appeal to US troops and flyers over the Voice of Viet Nam and Liberation Radio.

She also sent the American people's greetings and praises to the South Vietnamese, particularly to the urban school and college students, intellectuals and artists. Her activities infuriated the US ruling circles into wanting her to be prosecuted for "treason," for "intelligence with the Communists."

But such a frantic reaction has not been able to shake the single-mindedness of an artiste like Jane Fonda, who has been arrested and interrogated many times as a war dissenter right in the US. As an actress, she has had to act fear, and usually finds it hard. But for the sake of justice, in real life, she has no fear. They may resort to fear to hamper her activity. But there is no other alternative. She will not change her course.

On parting with the land she described as a great school of life, she declared that her Vietnamese friends had instilled in her strength, courage and confidence, the love for man and for life full of pervading optimism.

For two days no one heard anything about her. Then she made her appearance in Paris, at Orly airport, dressed in a South Vietnamese suit of pajamas and palm hat. Is the change only an outward one? No, it is deeper than that. There is in our midst, declared she to the press, a very dangerous traitor. I think that he is Richard Nixon. In reply to the charge of "treason" levelled at her she said that the traitor is not someone who is trying to put an end to the war but he who is guilty of the most horrible crimes, so far unknown. The traitor is Nixon. And she expressed her feeling of shame of being an American, one of Nixon's fellow-citizens.

SO Jane Fonda, an "actress of the fast set" has become an outstanding anti-war militant, having accepted the challenge of the fascist of our time, enemy number one of peace. The dogs can keep barking, but Jane and her anti-war caravan will go on.

Thank you, Jane. Thank you for your courage. Thank you for your inspiring comradeship. We do think the same as you. We do think that the war has brought our two peoples closer in thought as in action, though an ocean is between them.

THANG LOI

M. BILAK:

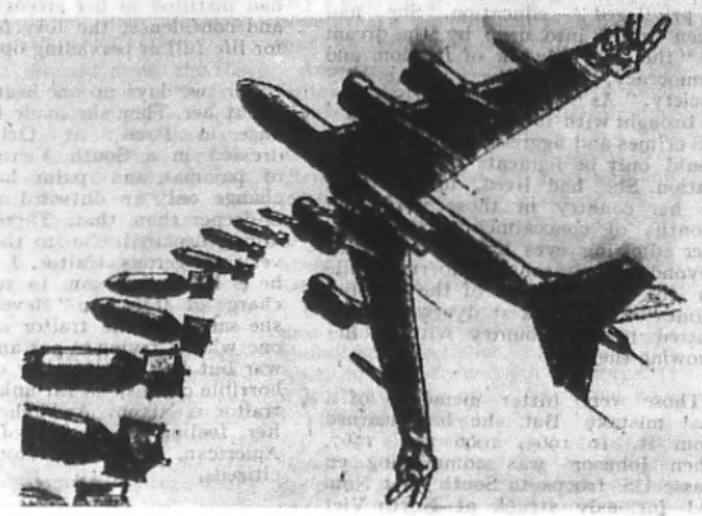
HISTORY WILL NEVER TOLERATE THIS AGGRESSION

IN a recent interview granted to *Rude Prado* Vasil Bilak, member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, said:

"While millions in the world are working and living in peace, the United States is waging a war of extermination against the Vietnamese people. It is an undeclared war. Viet Nam has never and in no way threatened the United States. It is the US government who has violated the most elementary ethics. It has massacred old people, women and children, destroyed the values which took a nation hundreds and thousands of years to establish. It has destroyed houses, schools, hospitals, dykes, water conservancy works; it has burnt down forests. The world has gone through many wars and disasters. But it has never witnessed such cynism, such hypocrisy and such inhumanity as shown by the US in Viet Nam. US imperialism is trying its best to gloss over these crimes with propaganda stunts in the press, radio and television, with braggings about 'freedom' and 'democracy', even about its 'aid' to the Vietnamese people. It has stopped at no manoeuvre to divert public attention in the United States and the world from its atrocities.

The heroic fight of the Vietnamese people against the criminal war of US imperialism is enlisting the admiration and solidarity of all men who have honour at heart, especially the Communists in the world, and also fanning up their hatred and protest against US imperialism... All progressive and anti-imperialist forces in the world are stigmatizing US aggression in Indochina...

We pay tribute to the courage and self-sacrifice of the Vietnamese people... Viet Nam is today a case of conscience of mankind and also a stain in the history of the United States."



The Nixon salut's as a bomber

World Religious Conference condemns US imperialists

THE World Conference of Religion Fighting for Peace and Justice in Indochina met in Tokyo from July 30 to August 1, 1972, *JPS* reported.

More than 400 delegates, including Japanese religions leaders and 57 representatives from 13 countries and 6 international religions bodies, attended the assembly.

After 3 days of work, it passed a resolution and an appeal, and decided to hold an "International Month of United Action in Support of Indochinese Peoples" beginning from August 16, 1972.

The unanimously approved resolution regarded Viet Nam as the most important issue of the present time. It condemned the US war of aggression in Indochina and demanded its immediate cessation. It described the war waged by the US imperialists in Indochina as a challenge to the good sense, dignity and fundamental rights of man.

The Tokyo Appeal issued by the Conference pointed out: "The Nixon administration are now escalating the war in Indochina — Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia — to an unprecedented level of atrocity. They are pushing up "Vietnamization." In North Viet Nam, they are indiscriminately bombing pagodas, churches, schools and hospitals, massacring women and children, killing religious priests, damaging dykes, wiping out forests and ricefields. Against such barbarous attacks, the Indochinese peoples have been compelled to take up arms to defend their lives and honour, and are fighting valiantly for peace and independence. Even in the United States, a growing number of religious believers and peace-lovers are showing a firm opposition to the Nixon Administrations's aggressive policy. Confronted with worldwide solidarity with the Indochinese peoples and the legitimate demands of the peoples the world over, the Nixon administration are resorting to crafty schemes, and trying to reduce US casualties by withdrawing part of US combat troops while striving to support quisling regimes with a view to continuing the war. By stepping up air and naval attacks, Nixon is escalating his genocidal crimes against the Vietnamese people. His "Vietnamization" policy aims only at "changing the colour of the corpses" on the battlefield, pitting Vietnamese against Vietnamese, Indochinese against Indochinese, Asians against Asians.

"The Indochinese peoples are fighting not only for their own fundamental national rights, but also for peace, freedom and justice for the peoples throughout the world.

"Therefore, their struggle assumes a decisive significance for the choice between war and peace, extermination and prosperity, violence and respect for mankind.

"We insist that the US government put an immediate end to its bombing, strafing, mining and blockading of DRVN territorial waters and destruction of her dykes.

"We urge that the US government at once stop all war acts against the South Vietnamese people and set a definite date for the total withdrawal of US troops from Indochina.

"We demand that the US government withhold its support from client regimes it has set up as instruments for its aggressive policy and let the Indochinese peoples settle themselves their own affairs."

The first warm sunrays in Denmark

IN the long winter in such Scandinavian countries as Denmark, where sunlight is rare and very valuable for human beings, for many years now, the people have devoted their first sunny days of April to actions showing their warmest solidarity and support for the Vietnamese people's struggle against US aggression for national salvation.

This year, the summer has come very early to the Scandinavian peninsula, just at the same time as the dramatic victories of the Vietnamese in both South and North Viet Nam, which enhances the Danish people's joy and happiness.

In early April, this year, while many Danish "Support Viet Nam" organizations and parties were carrying out a nation-wide campaign with dozens of meetings, exhibitions and press conferences to reaffirm their full support to the 7-point statement of the PRG of the RSVN for the peaceful settlement of the Viet Nam problem, flatly reject the "US 8-point peace proposal" and condemn US sabotage of the Paris Conference on Viet Nam, the gains of the South Vietnamese people on the battlefields once again bared the US true colours, its deceptive propaganda on the situation on Viet Nam and its bellicose position on the Viet Nam problem.

In the stirring atmosphere of the great military successes in South Viet Nam of the Vietnamese on April 15, 1972, more than 25,000 Danes of various strata poured out in the streets of Copenhagen, capital of the Kingdom of Denmark, for the biggest pro-Viet Nam demonstration. Displaying thousands of DRVN and NFL flags, posters and banners, the demonstrators among them many old people and women with their babies in prams, shouted: "Long live NFL", "NFL vill win", "USA out of Viet Nam" and so on.

Moreover, from April 16 to May 28, 1972, after US resumption of systematic bombings of the DRVN territory and specially after the US illegal mining of her ports and territorial waters, tens of thousands of Danes from Copenhagen and some other cities, such as Aarhus (the second largest city), Odense (the third largest city) and Aalborg (the fourth largest city), and even hundreds of American nationals in Denmark indignantly took part in 9 other big demonstrations, five of these in front of the US Embassy in Copenhagen, to strongly protest and denounce the US frienzied escalation against the DRVN, and urge an immediate halt to US criminal bombing and mining of the DRVN."

On the night of April 16 alone, about some hours after learning that US B-52s and jets cruelly bombed and strafed many densely populated areas belonging to Hanoi capital and Haiphong port, more than 2,000 Copenhagenese took to the streets at midnight. With thousands of torches in their hands, they went directly to the US Embassy and chanted: "Immediately stay US bloody hands in Viet Nam."

On the morning of May 9, 1972, one day after Nixon's mining of ports and territorial waters of the DRVN, many representatives of more than 37 Trade Union organizations of Copenhagen also went to the US Embassy, "protest the US illegal war acts and demand an immediate end to all US bombing and mining of the DRVN" and "the Nixon administration's serious negotiations at the Paris Conference table for a peaceful solution of the Viet Nam problem on the basis of the 7 points of the PRG of the RSVN".

At the same time, many similar protests, motions and open letters signed by many intellectuals, personalities, political or professional groups, and thousands of teachers, students from many places in Denmark, have been sent to the US Embassy, the Danish Government or made known to the public.

Besides, the Danish Communist Youth organization, in cooperation with some other organizations, have been collecting tens of thousands of *kronors* for the Vietnamese victims of US bombs.

No doubt, so long as the US imperialists continue their aggression in Viet Nam and Indochina, the Danish people together with progressives all over the world will give increasing support and assistance to the Vietnamese and Indochinese peoples. The Danes and other Scandinavian peoples will reserve their heartfelt sentiment as warm as sunlight for the Vietnamese heroic struggle against US aggression for national salvation, till total victory.

Copenhagen, June 1972

DOAN NGUYEN

(from PRG Information Bureau of RSVN in the Kingdom of Denmark)

SOUTH VIET NAM — CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION